

JUL 28 2003

PTO/SB/30 (05-03)

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**Request  
For  
Continued Examination (RCE)  
Transmittal**

Address to:  
Mail Stop RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Application Number	09/851,242
Filing Date	May 8, 2001
First Named Inventor	Charles J. Runkle
Art Unit	1732
Examiner Name	S. Staicovici
Attorney Docket Number	2000.16

**This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.** Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

- 1.** **Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114** Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a.  Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.

i.  Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Rely Brief previously filed on \_\_\_\_\_  
ii.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

b.  Enclosed

i.  Amendment/Reply      iii.  Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

ii.  Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)      iv.  Other Submission of Formal Drawings

**2. Miscellaneous**

a.  Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required)  
b.  Other \_\_\_\_\_

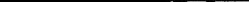
**3. Fees** The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.  
The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to  
a.  Deposit Account No. 08-2447

i. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)	07/29/2003	MBERHE	00000150	082447	09851242
ii. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)	01 FC:1801				
iii. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____	750.00	DA			

b.  Check in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ enclosed

c.  Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

**WARNING:** Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

<b>SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED</b>			
Name (Print/Type)	Robert Hammer III	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	31,764
Signature		Date	July 25, 2003

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

Name (Print/Type)	Janice B. Davis		
Signature		Date	July 25, 2003

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

*If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.*



Attorney Docket No. 2000.16

PATENT

JUL 28 2003

In re Application of:  
Runkle, et al

Art Unit: 1732

Serial No. 09/851,242

Examiner: S. Staicovici

Filed: May 8, 2001

For: METHOD FOR MAKING A HOLLOW FIBER MEMBRANE CONTACTOR

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This Preliminary Amendment is being filed along with a Request for Continuing Examination (RCE) that is filed in reply to the Office Action dated March 12, 2003 (Paper No. 10).

This amendment is being filed pursuant to the revised format set forth in *Amendments in a Revised Format Now Permitted, --- Off. Gaz. Pat. Office --- (Feb. 25, 2003)*.

Attached please find a Petition and Fee for a two-month extension of time.

Kindly amend the application, without prejudice, as follows:

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TC 1700

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7 of this paper.